

Q&A

Operating a hydraulic breaker

Does it matter if an attachment is used on several machines?

Yes. Each attachment has specific hydraulic operating pressures and flows which must be maintained to prevent damage to the attachment. When the attachment is installed, a service tech should setup the carrier to suit these hydraulic requirements. If the attachment is to be moved to another carrier, the new carrier must also be setup correctly.

Failure to do this can result in overflowing or over-pressuring the attachment, blowing or burning oil seals, hoses or valving. It can also result in the attachment not receiving enough oil flow or pressure, which will cause the attachment to underperform or not work at all.

To be safe, it is always best to ensure the carrier is correctly setup to the hydraulic attachment fitted before commencing work.

Why do Tools Break?

There are many reasons why hydraulic breaker working tools fail.

Very rarely is it a manufacturing fault when considering quality working tools made from nickel chromium alloy, which possesses all the important qualities needed to withstand the arduous conditions hammer tools work under.

Some reasons working tools break can be summarised by the following:

- **Lever breaks** - tools are used at wrong angles or are used as crowbars to either free a stuck tool or help remove rock or concrete that is not broken all the way through.
- **Blank firing** - this occurs when the tool is not engaged and the hammer is fired for long periods.
- **Metal welding** - this results from either a lack of lubrication or incorrect tool working angle which squeezes out grease and causes the tool/bush to make contact, allowing a small crack to form due to the heat created while this contact is made.
- **Torsional break** - where a chisel will twist & snap trying to follow the natural contour of a rock formation.

Ways to Minimise Tool Breakage

Some ways to minimise tool breakages are:

- **Operator training** - BA Equipment Group can provide assistance to train operators should this be required.
- **Using bronze bushes instead of steel** - It should be noted that utilising bronze bushes will increase the frequency of bush replacements as bronze will wear quicker than steel.
- **Using a shorter tool** rather than a long one which can reduce the lever effect during operation - BA Equipment Group can supply tools of any length to suit your application.

Please contact your local BA Equipment Group office if you need further information or assistance.



**BREAKERS &
ATTACHMENTS**



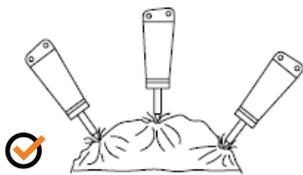
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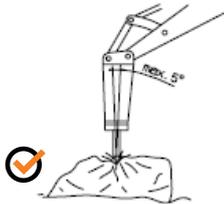
Operating a hydraulic breaker

The following is a guide on how to operate your hydraulic breaker the correct way to ensure it's reliability & productivity:



Angle of attack

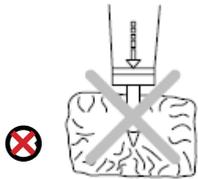
The working tool should always be positioned at right angles to the working surface. If this is not the case, the hydraulic breaker will wear more quickly and in the long term will suffer damage.



Breaker rocking

Rock the breaker gently (no more than approx. 5°) during breaking to allow the dust to escape from beneath the tip of the working tool. If dust is allowed to build up, it will act as a cushion to prevent the full impact energy of the breaker being transferred to the material being broken.

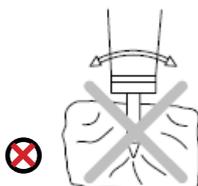
Excessive rocking will, however, cause bending strains resulting in damage to the working tool and the hydraulic breaker.



Never drive the working tool into the ground

If the advance step is too large, or the breaker is not rocked to allow dust to escape, the working tool will be driven into the material without breaking it sufficiently. The tip of the working tool will glow red hot and lose its hardness.

Operating in this way is not allowed!



Never lever with the breaker

Never attempt to use the hydraulic breaker as a crowbar, as this will cause the working tool to break.

Operating in this way is not allowed!

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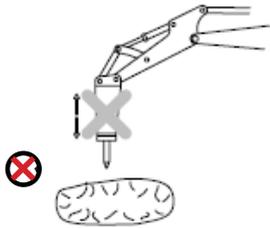


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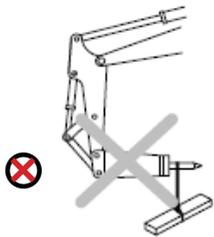
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Never use as a sledgehammer

Before starting up, rest the breaker on the ground. Never attempt to use the breaker and the excavator boom as a sledgehammer to break material.

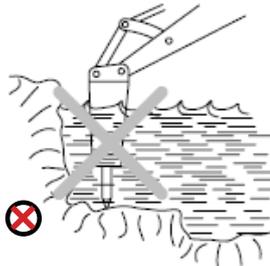
Operating in this way is not allowed!



Never use for transport purposes

The hydraulic breaker is not designed to lift or transport loads.

Unsuitable application!



Using the hydraulic breaker in or under water

The hydraulic breaker must never be used in or under water without prior conversion. In order to avoid damage to the hydraulic breaker, Atlas Copco Construction Tools has developed a special connecting kit for underwater applications containing all necessary components incl. safety equipment to keep water out of the lower breaker part by means of compressed air.



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